



## **ROBERT W. WIRCH**

STATE SENATOR TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

### American Jobs Act

I am pleased to have introduced the American Jobs Act with Representative Mark Pocan and want to thank Chairman Molepske for acting on this bill.

The American Jobs Act is leadership by example.

When state agencies contract for services and pay for those services with tax dollars, the people of this state have an expectation that their tax dollars will be spent with companies that operate in their local community, Wisconsin or elsewhere in the United States – where their tax dollars will help to grow our economy.

In order for our state government to be an effective advocate for our communities and have a strong voice against the outsourcing of Wisconsin jobs – we have to be certain that our own state government leads by example. The best way to do that is in the statutes.

While there are some exemptions, this bill requires all contractual services purchased by state executive branch agencies to be performed within the United States – unless those contractual services cannot be obtained in the United States.

There are few legislators whose districts haven't been negatively impacted by outsourcing, but this bill isn't just about outsourcing.

It's also about saving taxpayers money.

We need to take steps to have greater oversight of contracted services.

There have been too many articles in recent years about the tens of millions of tax dollars wasted on contractual services. Also, common sense dictates that we can increase our level of oversight by having the contracts performed at home – not half-way around the world.

Thank you, again, for holding this hearing today.

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## American Jobs Act/ AB2

Good Morning Chairperson Molepske and Committee —  
Members. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

If we're going to grow our economy and create jobs, we must support American businesses. One simple way to do that is to give state contracts to American companies — with American workers.

The American Jobs Act would stop state taxpayer dollars from going to ~~deals with~~ companies that ship jobs overseas.

So many folks are out of work — or feel their jobs are in jeopardy, right now. It's not right that their tax dollars are going to ensure that someone in another country has a job. We have to take care of people here, first.

This bill works alongside the "Buy Wisconsin" bill, which encourages the state to buy a certain amount of goods and services from Wisconsin businesses. With these two bills, we are clearly supporting Wisconsin businesses and Wisconsin workers.

UW-Madison Data      FY8 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008)  
 Payments made to entities not located in the United States

GPR funded payments *		GPR funded payments for Services	All funds payments	% of services payments from GPR funds
\$	2,123,369	\$ 718,909	\$ 11,474,772	6%

\*Note: Includes ALL payments, for both products and services  
 Examples of products purchased from non-US sources include library materials (books and subscriptions)